tion. It could have reversed the deflationary spiral, given work to the unemployed, restored the self-confidence of the people and their faith in the Republic. Instead, it chose to keep the budget balanced and defend the currency, and it defended the currency until the Republic collapsed. It saved the currency and thus Hitler could plunge Germany and the world into the abyss of destruction.

In the national parks we visited temporary barracks of the Civilian Conservation Corps. In the inspiring environment of some of the most beautiful spots on the continent, young boys from the slums of the big cities were at work—building roads, dams, and bridges, clearing forests, fighting tree diseases. For most of them this was the first job they could love; for many, the first job in their life. We talked with the boys and their squad leaders. In a national park in Colorado we met a youngster, a former barber's apprentice. Reared in Jewish slums, he had never seen a forest until he enrolled in the CCC and was brought to this enchanting place. Here he had learned to work in the open air and studied books on forestry in his spare hours. The rangers had promised him a permanent job with the forestry service. His term of work with the CCC was nearing its end, he told us, but he would never return to the city. He would stay here as a forester and he revealed to us his dream. "Later, if I am good enough, I may become a ranger."

In another park, a supervisor told us about a problem he faced with new recruits. The regulations provided that only boys in good health could be accepted. Minimum weight was fixed. But many boys were undernourished on arrival and could not pass the test. "We keep them as guests of the other boys for a week or two and try to feed them up. A skinny boy can gain ten pounds in two weeks."

We saw the roads, culverts, and shelters the boys had built and the stretches of forests they had cleared—a marvelous combination of conservation of natural resources and human beings. And again I could not help comparing the situation in the United States and Germany. These healthy, cheerful, friendly boys will never forget what their country has done for them. They returned to their homes better men and better citizens. . . . Was not F.D.R. building his nation as effectively as Brüning had been destroying the Weimar Republic? Simple people whom we met in all parts of the country considered Roosevelt *their* President.

Many of our Washington friends were slightly ironical about what they considered our uncritical admiration of Roosevelt. To some of them he was too radical; to others, not radical enough. Some reproached him with having concentrated too much power in his hands, encroaching on the rights of states. The source of the difference between the critics of the President and ourselves lay in our political

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